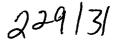
Shenandoah Vailey Partnership; Inc. P.O. Box 2241 Harrisonburg, Virginia 22801 (540) 568.3100 (540) 568.3170 fax svp@jmu.edu www.shenandoah-valley.biz





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The Honorable Daniel R. Elliot, III Chairman Surface Transportation Board 395 E Street, SW Suite 1220 Washington, DC 20423-0001

Dear Chairman Elliot:

I am writing to express the Shenandoah Valley Partnership's support for a strong freight railroad network, not only in our state/region, but across the nation.

As America finally begins to pull itself out of the Great Recession, we do not need to reverse progress by damaging the ability of the rail industry to reinvest and continue to provide strong service.

We at the Shenandoah Valley Partnership support a healthy freight rail network that encourages reinvestment by the rail industry, supports job growth and continued economic recovery.

We oppose any policy or regulatory changes that would hinder the freight railroads' ability to continue investing billions of dollars annually in private capital to grow and modernize the nation's rail infrastructure. We respectfully request that no regulatory or policy changes be pursued at this time by the STB. We need to maintain the strong and well-balanced regulatory regime we have in place today.

Thank you for our consideration of our position.

Sincerely,

Robin Sullenberger, CEO
Shenandoah Valley Partnership

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